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FSSAI Launches the Online Food Product Approval System

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

The “Food Product Approval System (FPAS)” launched by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) allows for companies to apply online for a no objection certificate or seek product approval for new food product imports.

Executive Summary:

FSSAI launched the FPAS, which allows Food Business Operators (FBOs) to apply online for a no objection certificate or seek product approval for new food product imports. Based on user feedback, FSSAI may eventually develop an ingredient-based approval system.

General Information:

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from the following Government of India website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The U.S. Government makes no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

On September 9, 2014, FSSAI launched the online FPAS, which allows FBOs to apply online for a no objection certificate or seek product approval for new food product imports. The system was developed by the National Institute for Smart Government with guidance from the Product Approval Screening Committee. Based on user feedback, FSSAI may eventually develop an ingredient-based approval system.

According to FSSAI, the key features of the FPAS are:

FBO:

- FBOs can apply online for product approval from any location
- FBOs can make online payments as required
- FBOs can track application status online

New Product Approval Process:

- Improved transparency
- Faster and more efficient evaluations on submitted applications
- Faster and efficient communication between various stakeholders involved in the product approval process
- Less turnaround time on applications

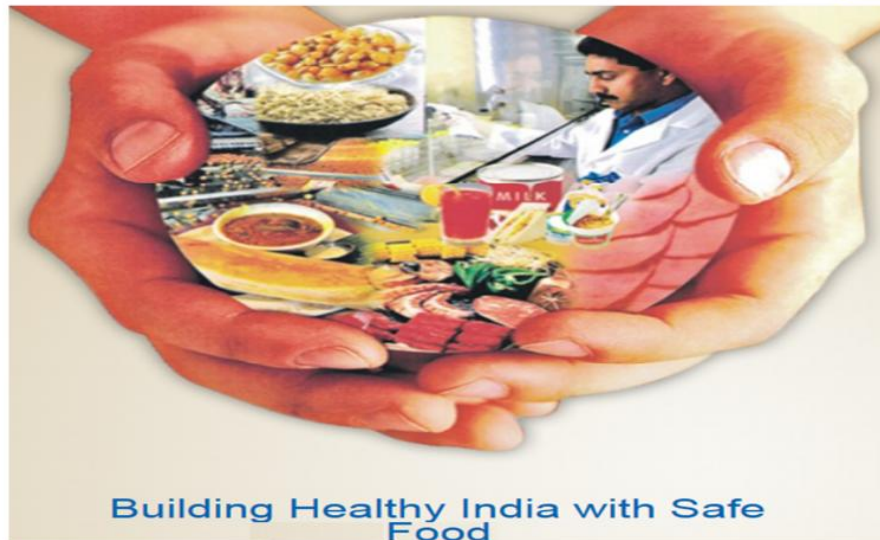
The full text on FPAS is given below and can also be accessed on FSSAI website at:
[http://www.fssai.gov.in/Portals/0/Pdf/FPAS\(11.09.14\).pdf](http://www.fssai.gov.in/Portals/0/Pdf/FPAS(11.09.14).pdf)



FOOD PRODUCT APPROVAL SYSTEM (FPAS) launched on 9th September 2014

The Government of India enacted Food Safety and Standards Act, (FSS Act, 2006) to regulate and monitor the manufacture, process, pack, transport, store, distribute, sell, import and provide approvals of any food or food ingredient, so as to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and also to lay down science based standards.

- ❖ FSSAI successfully completed setting up and operationalization of Product Approval Process vide various advisories issued on the subject, the latest being **Advisory No P. 15025/01/2013-PA/FSSAI dated 11.05.2013**
- ❖ Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Ministry of Health & Family Affairs, GoI has designed and implemented an Online Food Product Approval System (FPAS) through which users can check online, the need for Product Approval of their products, apply online, pay relevant fee, provide required clarifications, track status and finally receive No Objection Certificate OR Product Approval as relevant.
- ❖ Shri K Chandramouli (Retd. IAS), Honorable Chairperson of FSSAI launched the online Food Product Approval System (FPAS) at FDA Bhavan, New Delhi on the 9th of September 2014. The FPAS can be accessed through the website <http://fpas.fssai.gov.in>
- ❖ FPAS is first of its kind IT system for Food Product Approval by a regulator. FSSAI is proud to launch this dynamic system to all its stakeholders to bring in consistency, transparency and ease of use to the otherwise complex process of scientific risk assessment of new food products being introduced into the Indian market
- ❖ The Food Product Approval System (FPAS) project has been developed by National Institute for Smart Government (NISG) under the able guidance of Product Approval and Screening Committee
- ❖ Food Business Operators are requested to utilize the online services and provide their feedback in the endeavors of FSSAI to improve the Product Approval process and eventually switch over to an Ingredient based Authorization system that is fully integrated with Food Licensing System and Food Import Clearance System



Food Product Approval System Version 1.0

Key Features of Food Product Approval System *fssai*

FBO:

- FBO can apply for product approval online from anywhere
- FBO can make online payment
- FBO can track the status of the application

PA Division:

- Improve transparency of the PA system
- Database of FSSR and Codex Product, Ingredients and additives
- Quicker and efficient evaluation of submitted application
- Quicker and efficient communication between various stakeholders involved in the PA process
- Reduce turnaround time for Application through the Product Approval System

Processes in FPAS



The key processes in the web based Product Approval System are

- Registration of applicants
- Filing of PA applications along with all relevant information and supporting documents
- Payment of PA fees
- Scrutiny of applications
- Referral to Scientific Panels/Committee
- Communication of Approval/rejection of applications



FPAS – Envisaged Services



- Interactive Questionnaire to determine the need of an approval
- Interactive Questionnaire to determine the appropriate application based on product category
- Online Interactive Application for Product Approval for the FBO
- Application status tracking
- Provide support to the TO in Application Scrutiny by providing existing information
 - ❖ Domestic standards like FSSAI, Indian Food Code etc.
 - ❖ International standards like FDA, EFSA, ANZFA, JECFA
- Online Communication of Approval/Rejection and seeking of additional information, if necessary
- Provision for Updating database on new food product/ingredient/additive related information



WALK THROUGH



FPAS Walk Thru - Screenshots

1	FBO Registration for obtaining Log in Credentials
2	Product Approval Application – FBO Dashboard & Eligibility Criteria
3	Product Approval Application – Providing Product, Ingredient, Additive Details
4	Product Approval Application – Uploading Supporting Documents
5	Product Approval Application – Summary PDF of Application details
6	Payment & Acknowledgement Receipt
7	Product Approval Department – Verification & Evaluation
8	Generation of NOC, PA Certificate, Rejection of Application
9	Communication to FBO

FPAS Walk Through - FBO Registration Page

➤ After successful submission, the username & password will be received to the given Email address

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FPAS Walk Through - FBO Dashboard

Features in FBO Dashboard:

- A. Quick Links**
 1. How to Apply
 2. Create & Update Account
 3. Fee Structure
 4. Document Checklist
 5. Rules of Submission
 6. FAQ's
- B. Dashboard** – Where the user can view all their applications and their status
- C. New Application** – Where the user can apply for PA, NOC
- D. Manage Profile**
- E. Logout**

➤ Click to see the features in the FBO Dashboard

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FPAS Walk Through – FBO Product Approval Eligibility Criteria

Product Approval Eligibility Criteria

Does the product fall under GM food or contains a GM food ingredient? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Sorry! Genetically Modified (GM) Food / GM Ingredients cannot be marketed in India for Human Consumption. Therefore application for Product Approval is not allowed.

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Message from webpage

Based on the information fed, Product Approval is not required. Kindly make sure you have provided correct information on.

FSSR Details

Do you have the exact FSSR code of the product for which Product Approval is being sought? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Enter the FSSR Product Description:

Please enter the details of the Deviations from the standard for that product in FSSR, 2011 as selected above?

Indian Food Code (IFC) Details

Do you have exact IFC code for the product for which Product Approval is being sought? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Enter the IFC Product Description:

Please enter the details of the Deviations from the standard for that product in FSSR, 2011 as selected above?

[Continue](#)

- System identifies the application category 1A or 1B based on the inputs given by the FBO – Click here for details

Eligibility Criteria

1. Genetically Modified restrains the user from application
2. Product Approval not provides the exact IF product, Ingredient &
3. 1 A – Food products ingredients present a permitted under FSS and other regulatory EU/FSANZ/USFDA etc does not contain plant substances from animal
4. 1 B – Food products ingredients present a permitted under FSS and other regulatory EU/FSANZ/USFDA etc contain ingredients in botanicals or substances

FPAS Walk Through– FBO Providing Product Details - 1

Product Details:

1. Common/ Generic Name
2. IFC Category Name, FSSR Product Name, CODEX Product Name

Product Details

FSSR and IFC Details

FSSR Code *

FSSR Product Name *

FSSR Deviation If Any

IFC Code *

IFC Category Name *

IFC Deviation If Any

- Click to view the product details that the applicant should provide

FPAS Walk Through– FBO Providing Product Details - 2

CODEX Details
CODEX Product Name
CODEX Code

Origin Details
Product Origin
Existence in Market

Brand Details
Generic/Common Name
Method of Manufacture

Claim and End Use Details
Claim If Any

Shelf Life and Pack Details
Shelf life

Other Details
Serving Details
Label Attachment Type
Additional Details

Product Details:

- CODEX Name
- Brand Name
- Country of Origin
- End use
- Shelf Life
- Method of Manufacture
- End User
- Package Size
- Serving size and servings per day
- Additional Details for 1b
- Actual/ Prototype of label
- Product Specific Documents like Label, Accelerated/ Real-time stability, End use

➤ Click to view the product details that the applicant should provide

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FPAS Walk Through– FBO Providing Ingredient Details


Food Safety and Standards
(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
FOOD PRODUCT APPROVAL SYSTEM

Home | About PAS | New Application | Dashboard

Application

Basic Details
Product Details
Ingredient Details

Category
Ingredient Name
Description
Quantity per 100 Grams/ML
Source
Elemental/Inherent Source Details

Ingredient Details:

- Ingredient Name
- Quantity per 100 Grams/ML
- Source
- Nutrient declaration (Yes/ No)
- Quantity in elemental form for ingredients with RDA limits
- Additional Details for 1B application

➤ Click to view the Ingredient details that the applicant should provide

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FPAS Walk Through– FBO Providing Additive Details

Additive Details:

A. Common Additives:

1. Functional Class of Additive (Acidifying Agent, Emulsifier etc)
2. Additive Name
3. INS Number – Auto Feed by the System
4. Quantity per 100 gm/ml

B. Colors & Flavors (for multiple products under one application)

1. Brand Name/ Variant Name
2. Name of the Flavor/ Color
3. INS Number – Auto Feed by the System
4. Quantity per 100 gm/ml

➤ Click to view the Additive details that the applicant should provide


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FPAS Walk Through– FBO Uploading Supporting Documents

List of Supporting Documents:

1. Product Related Documents
2. Ingredient Related Documents
3. Additive Related Documents
4. Label Related Documents
5. Affidavit Related Documents
6. Method of analysis Related Documents
7. Certificate of Analysis from NABL,ILAC accredited laboratories
8. Checklist for FBOs

FPAS Walk Through – FBO Summary PDF of Application details



Summary PDF of application:

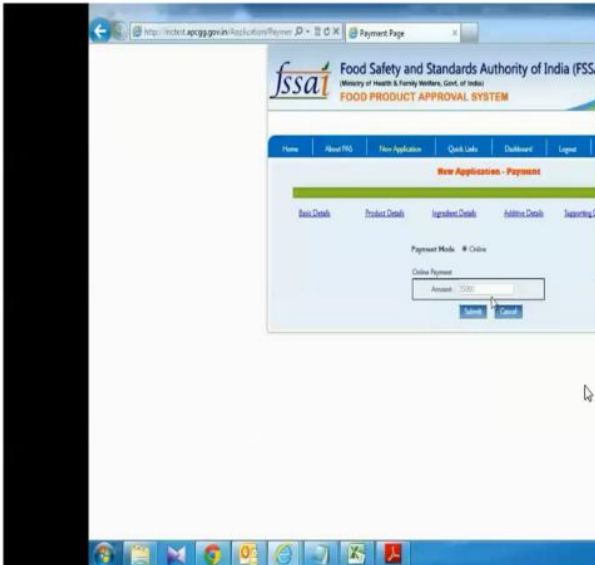
1. Product Details
2. Ingredient Details
3. Additive Details
4. Supporting Documents
5. Checklist of all details

Before proceeding to payment the FBO can print a copy & and review the summary of provided details and can modify the application

- FBO can view the summary of all details provided in the earlier sections of the application and can modify before proceeding to payment

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FPAS Walk Through – FBO Payment & Acknowledgement Receipt



A. Online Payment & Submission

The Applicant can provide the payment via online and can obtain the acknowledgment receipt for submitting the application

- Applicant successfully submit the application and obtains an acknowledgement receipt after providing the payment details

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